



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/650,136	08/28/2003	Mengtao Pete He	15730.0900	6327

7590 05/25/2004
Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.
One Arizona Center
400 East Van Buren
Phoenix, AZ 85004-2202

EXAMINER

PATEL, DHIRUBHAI R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2831

DATE MAILED: 05/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

272

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/650,136	HE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	DHIRU R PATEL	2831	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2831

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, means recited in claim 12 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). The examiner suggest showing reference number for means . A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance. No new matter should be entered.

Applicant is responsible for showing reference number for claimed invention.

2. Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect may be deferred until after the examiner has considered the proposed drawing correction. Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing correction will result in the abandonment of the application.

Claim Objections

3 Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities:
in claim 11 line 5, " the second outlet plug" . The examiner suggests change to " the second outlet" instead for improved clarity.

In claim 11 line 5, change " movably" to -- moveably--.

Specification

Art Unit: 2831

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the reference characters must be properly applied, no single reference character being used for two different parts or for a given part and a modification of such part. Such as in the specification on page 5 paragraph 0020, " a housing 210" and on page 6 paragraph 0021, " prong 210" and on page 9 paragraph 0028 " housing 200" .

Applicant is responsible for providing separate reference number for each part disclosed in the specification. See MPEP § 608.01 (g) .

Applicant is responsible for reviewing the entire specification for each reference number and revise as required.

Appropriate correction is required.

5. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o).

Claims 11-12 are not adequately supported by the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. Claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for an electrical device, the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for to adjust the radial distance between the first and second sets of prongs (for claims 11), and means for adjusting the radial distance between the first and second coupling means (for claim 12) . The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make or

Art Unit: 2831

assemble the invention commensurate in scope with the claims. The specification doesn't reasonably disclose the claimed subject matter of claims 11 and 12, and therefore the subject matter of claims 11 and 12 are not enabled by the disclosure of the invention. The applicant is required to cancel the claims 11-12 or provide a reasonable explanation of why they feel the specification supports the subject matter as disclosed in claims 11 and 12.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-10 are allowed.

8. 11-12 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, set forth in this Office action and the specification objection.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The primary reasons for the indication of the allowability of claims 1-12 are the inclusion therein, in combination as currently claimed, of the limitation of the second set of prongs is moveably coupled with respect to the housing to accommodate variations in distance between the first outlet and the second outlet (for claims 1-10), the second set of prongs is moveably coupled to the second outlet and is configured to adjust the radial distance between the first and second sets of prongs as a function of the distance between the first and second outlets (for claim 11), and means for adjusting the radial distance between the first and second coupling means as a function of the distance between the first and second outlets (for claim 12).

Art Unit: 2831

The previously listed limitation is neither disclosed nor taught by the prior art of record, alone or in combination.

Other prior art cited

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Pacheco, Savicki, Shotey, Currier, Burbine, and Moeller disclose a housing similar to applicant's claimed invention.

Contact information

10 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dhuru Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-1983. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pairstdirect.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

Serial Number: 10/650136

Page 6

Art Unit: 2831

Dhiru Patel
Primary Examiner
Group Art Unit 2831
May 15, 2004

Dhiru Patel
Primary Examiner
5/15/04.